



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#8/13
4/11/8/103
Zuck

Application of:

FLEEMAN, Brian J.

Serial No. : 09/726,841

Filed: November 30, 2000

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
SELECTIVELY POSITIONING OF
FEEDING TUBES

Docket No. 30697

Group Art Unit No. 3763

Examiner: L. Thanh

RECEIVED
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In response to the office action dated September 25, 2002, amendment and reconsideration of the above application is requested.

In the Specification:

Please delete the paragraph which begins at page 3, line 33 and ends at page 4, line 9 and substitute the following paragraph therein:

B¹

In more detail, the tube 10 is for the most part conventional, and includes an elongated, flexible, synthetic resin tubular body 22 having a conventional proximal end 18 known to those skilled in the art. The tube 10 is modified, however, by provision of an attachment fixture 26 at proximal end 18. Referring to Fig. 3, it will be observed that the fixture 26 is in the form of a somewhat Y-shaped tubular member 28 presenting a first leg 30 and an obliquely oriented leg 32. The leg 30

B1
receives the tip of tubular body 22 as shown, whereby the leg 30 in effect forms a continuation of the tubular body 22. In this regard, it will also be seen that a guide wire 34 extends along the length of tube 22. This guide wire is retained in place by an endmost tubular mount 36 which is secured to the end of leg 30 remote from tube 22. The overall fixture further has a pair of pigtail stoppers 38 and 40 respectively secured to the legs 30, 32 and including a conical stopper projection 42, 44 designed to fit within the ends of the legs 30, 32 as will be described.

Claims:

✓
Please cancel claims 6, 13-14.

✓
Please amend the following claims:

B2
4. (Amended) ~~A patient feeding tube comprising:~~
~~an elongated tube presenting a distal end adapted for insertion into a patient and a proximal~~
~~portion designed to remain outside the patient;~~
~~a fixture operably coupled with said proximal portion; and~~
~~at least one intermediate coupling member attached to said fixture, said coupling member~~
~~adapted to permit attachment of a CO₂ detecting machine to the tube so that the~~
~~presence of CO₂ adjacent said distal end may be detected when the tube is inserted~~
~~into a patient.~~